

IPU

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Gilles LARROQUE-LAHITETTE et al.

Group Art Unit: 3641

Application No.: 10/724,610

Examiner: S. JOHNSON

Filed: December 2, 2003

Docket No.: 117929

For: DEVICE TO PROVIDE AN ELECTRICAL CONNECTION BETWEEN A
RECOILING MASS OF A WEAPON AND A FIXED CRADLE

APPLICANTS' INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

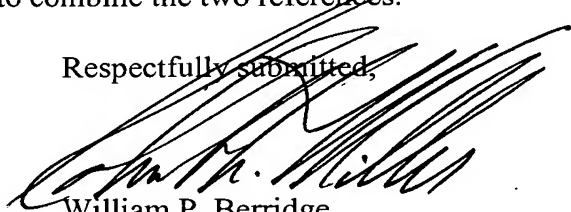
Applicants wish to express their appreciation to Examiner Johnson for the courtesy shown Applicants' representative at the February 14, 2006 personal interview. The points discussed are summarized below.

Agreement was quickly reached that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 over Humphrey, Campbell, and Marcon would be withdrawn. Thus, the discussion focused on the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Meyer in view of Greenlees. Applicants' representative argued that there was nothing to suggest combining an igniting device, as disclosed by Greenlees, with an electrical gun, as disclosed by Meyer. Whatever Greenlees was used with, it would appear that it was intended to initiate a larger explosive charge and, thus, would be destroyed. Thus, there is no reciprocating function in Greenlees.

The Examiner stated he was solely citing Greenlees as a switch that could replace the contact switch, comprised of the firing contact 50 and the unnumbered L-shaped contact shown in Figures 5 and 6 of Meyer. The Examiner asserted that a switch, such as in Greenlees, wherein when a solenoid is activated the contact moves forward and a spring causes the contact to retract when the solenoid is inactivated, could be substituted for the aforementioned contact of Meyer.

Applicants again assert that such a combination would be difficult to accomplish and if it were, it would in fact be inventive. The firing pin of Meyer is mounted in a breech block 13. The firing pin itself is always in a forward position due to a spring at its base within the breech block. Thus, even when the breech block retracts the firing pin stays forward as can be seen in Figure 6. Thus, it is unclear where the solenoid of Greenlees would be applied and it is unclear what would provide the motivation for such a complex apparatus. Thus, Applicants again submit there is no motivation to combine the two references.

Respectfully submitted,


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WPB:RAM/eks

Date: February 15, 2006

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